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Contents

The Philadelphia Counterpart of the Boston Tea Party, as shown in the Letters of James & Drinker, Thomas B. Taylor, Part I. 86

Opening of Iowa Yearly Meeting, Charles F. Coffin . . . 110

A Sketch of Farnham Monthly Meeting of Friends, Province of Quebec, Canada, Joshua Bull 113

A Visit to East Farnham, Canada, 1830, Rowland Greene . 119

Notes and Queries 122
Thomas Bowne—Books by Friends—New Edition of Journal of George Fox—"Quaker Boy at School"—Benjamin West not a Quaker—Journal of Friends' Historical Society—"The Quaker in the Forum"—"Love"—Martin Mason . . . . . .

Index to Volumes I. and II. 126

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THE PHILADELPHIA COUNTERPART OF THE BOSTON TEA PARTY.

(As shown by the correspondence of James & Drinker.)

INTRODUCTION.

BY THOMAS B. TAYLOR.

The introduction to the following letters is an attempt to portray some of the conditions in America and Philadelphia in the year 1773. The correspondence here presented is between James & Drinker, of Philadelphia, and Pigon & Booth, of London, England, and New York, concerning the attempted importation of tea from England under the provisions of the act of Parliament passed in May, 1773. The firm of James & Drinker was composed of Abel James and Henry Drinker, members of the Society of Friends, and prominent among the merchants of the town. They were large importers of dry goods and general merchandise, and owners of vessels used in the ocean carrying trade. Their warehouse was on the river front near Race Street. Henry Drinker was for some time Clerk of the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia, highly esteemed as a member of the Society, and died in the year 1809.

Pigon & Booth were correspondents of James & Drinker in London and also in New York, where they maintained a house in charge of Benjamin Booth.

James & Drinker were subscribers to the celebrated non-importation agreement by the merchants and traders of Philadelphia entered into on October 25th, 1765, as a protest against the odious stamp act and evidently took an active part in its promotion, as Abel James was one of the committee of eleven named in the document to attend to obtaining subscriptions of the merchants of the town. As appears by letters of Henry Drinker published in *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* (Vol. 14, page 41), he himself became a member of the Executive Committee during or prior to 1769, when the non-importation agreements were renewed throughout the Colonies as a protest against the Revenue Act then existing. As we shall see by this correspondence James & Drinker and also Benjamin Booth received the appointment of Tea Commissioners in 1773. The letters of James & Drinker are from their original drafts made with pen and ink, to be copied by clerks, and filed with the originals of Pigon & Booth.

We have all as school children learned of the riotous act of the Bostonians in emptying ship-loads of Tea into their harbor, but many of us did not know or realize that the agitation and first steps of the resistance which developed into that riot were taken in the State House

yard, in Philadelphia; and that Philadelphia, as a community, was in as much of a ferment during that summer and autumn as was Boston or New York, the difference being simply in the temper of the respective peoples and their mode of treatment.

For three generations or more prior to 1764 the American Colonies had but lightly felt the governing hand of England. The country had been peopled largely at first by those whom England was well satisfied and even glad to be rid of—Puritans, Quakers and other religious dissenters, besides large numbers of political offenders, and criminals, whose sentence, to be "transported beyond sea," meant that they be landed in America to begin life anew. These, in all comparatively a few thousand, had, at the time of which we write, grown, by natural increase, to a population of over 2,000,000 white inhabitants. Moreover in the free and open political and social atmosphere of America there had developed among them a strong and self-reliant citizenship, fully capable and willing for self-government, keenly alive to their advantages of location so far away from England, and jealous for the retention of their given and acquired rights.

Historians point out that it was the menace of the French colonizing on the Northern and Western borders that, prior to 1763, prevented England from attempting a more rigorous system of government for the Colonies. When, after the defeat and subjugation of the French Colonies, in 1763, the Mother Country the following year did commence the reconstruction of her Colonial affairs it proved to be too late. The transition into practical self-government and a condition of semi-independence had been going on, but so gradually that neither side was aware how far the process had gone, though doubtless some individuals may have thought they foresaw the inevitable result. The next ten years was a period of debate, an evolution of opinion towards the denial of the authority of Parliament and the avowal of the right to independence by the Americans. The Tea incident,—the subject of our correspondence,—marked the final attempt to regulate by Act of Parliament. The next year the concluding arguments were exchanged, the debate was finished. There was nothing left but organization for defense on the one side and for attempted coercion on the other, and the final stage of the Revolution was on.

But why *Tea?* What is the reason we hear so much about *smuggling* and *tea?*

One of the regulating measures of the British government was that of "Trade and Navigation," another was of the "Revenue Laws." Both of these caused trouble, distress and irritation to the Americans. The first dated back to the time of Cromwell and in theory were not objected to. They were intended to confine the trade of the Colonies to the Mother Country. The Colonies were prohibited from manufacturing, and were obliged to export their raw materials to England and import manufactured goods thence in return; and the ships and foreign traders were prohibited

from the trade excepting through England. These came to be burdensome provisions, but the Colonists virtually repealed them by disregarding them so that they were for generations practically a dead letter.

Hence Smuggling became, especially in later times, a meritorious practice, closely allied to patriotism, as proper and reasonable resistance and evasion of an odious regulation and effecting the needed "Free Trade." Those engaged in it were lauded and protected by the rebellious element. The customs became not worth collecting. Smuggling was not, however, confined or peculiar to this side of the Atlantic. The coasts of Britain swarmed with smugglers. It is stated, as many as 40,000 men were engaged in the business there at one time. We may conclude that our "Sixth Query"—"Do you maintain a faithful testimony against *** buying and selling goods fraudulently imported or prize goods?" is of very ancient origin, and doubtless Henry Drinker had many times read it out in Monthly Meeting and heard the answers thereto. He and his partner, therefore, could have no part in that kind of traffic, and we may imagine from his letters that Benjamin Booth was too loyal an Englishman to engage in it.

Passing by the Stamp Act, passed in 1765 and, by reason of the uproar it produced, repealed the following year, we come to the Revenue Act of 1767. This levied an import duty on paint, paper, glass and tea. This was also opposed and the resistance to it brought about its repeal in 1769 as to all except the duty on tea, which was reduced to 3d per pound and left as a test to the real sentiments of the Colonists. The latter had at first contended that while they might pay such a duty, as a contribution for the cost of their protection on the sea, they would not pay an "internal" tax, as the "Stamp tax" levied for revenue. This distinction, however, soon disappeared.

From this time until 1773 there appears to have been a lull so far as the taxation for revenue was concerned.

The duty on tea did not trouble the Colonists as the smugglers kept the country supplied from Holland, largely via. St. Eustatius.* There was some imported into Boston upon which the duty was paid, as is shown in the letter of November 10th from New York, but for the most part trade with England in tea was dull.

The East India Company is said to have had sixteen millions of pounds of tea stored in London upon which they paid a duty of a shilling per pound, and they were in a strait, and in danger of bankruptcy for want of a market. This Company being closely allied to the government group, the act of May 10, 1773, was for their relief and also as a further test on the Americans. The import duty was by its provisions to be

*St. Eustatius, a Dutch [West India] island and the center and seat of the American smuggling trade against the British navigation laws. It was seized by the British in Dec., 1780, after the declaration of war with Holland, who confiscated all property on it, amounting to fifteen million dollars.—Sidney George Fisher's "True History of the Revolution," p. 407.

remitted the East India Company and they were to collect the three pence per pound duty in America. If Boston, the most rebellious town in America, would continue to import the tea and pay the duty to the extent shown by the account above alluded to from the years 1769 to 1773 inclusive, England must have thought it reasonable to expect that the opposition of the Americans had subsided. The amount of the duty was trifling and, moreover, it was of such a character as the Americans at the beginning of the debate had admitted was within the prerogative of the King and Parliament to impose. Moreover, the American merchants had become restive under their non-importation agreements of a few years before and many had broken away and violated their pledges so that those who held fast felt themselves to have been duped, as James & Drinker point out in their letter of Tenth month 5th. In one of the letters of Henry Drinker heretofore published, as mentioned on page , with reference to this subject, under date of Fifth month 26th, 1770, he alludes to "the little dirty Colony of Rhode Island" having "shamefully broken faith with the others and imported a ship-load of goods as usual, put their committee to defiance, and are proceeding in the sales without regard to their suffering neighbors." (*Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography,* Vol. 14, page 41).

A pretty story is told of William Bradford, proprietor of the London Coffee House, which stood at the southwest corner of Front and Market Streets, and also the editor and publisher of the *Pennsylvania Journal,* that it was he who first urged and started the opposition to this importation of tea and collected the town meeting of 16th October, 1773, (*Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography,* Vol. 15, page 386). The resolves adopted at that town meeting were sent to Boston, which seems to have been in a condition of apathy on the subject, but was aroused by this action of the Philadelphians, and at a town meeting on November 5th, John Hancock, the presiding officer, is said to have declared that the "sense of this town [Boston] cannot be better expressed," and so they were adopted as a whole. The cities were flooded with broadsides, and written arguments pro and con appeared in the papers. The author of the address to "Tradesmen and Mechanics," herewith produced, is not known, but is a good deal of the style of John Dickinson. James & Drinker, as Tea Commissioners, appear to have run counter to the sentiments of the opposition committee and of the other Commissioners so far as expressed, in regard to landing the tea, although, as they state, the answer of the Whartons was kept secret, at least from them and the public. They were, however, true to their convictions of their duty as Friends, desirous to be submissive to government, and the risk they ran in daring to declare their sentiments is indicated by a glance at the notice dated November 27th and December 7th to the Delaware Pilots by the "Committee for Tarring and Feathering" which may be found in *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography,* Vol. 15, page 390-1. John Dickinson, signing as "Rusticus," wrote two letters on

the subject addressed "To a Gentleman in Philadelphia." In the one dated November 27, 1773, he says: "And as to the Commissioners, appointed to receive this Tea, notwithstanding you tell me the answer of one house was not satisfactory; yet from the knowledge I have of the gentlemen that compose that house, I would venture my life, they prefer the esteem of their fellow citizens above the honour or emolument of being servants of that infamous Company" * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

"I shall, therefore, conclude with a proposal that your watchmen be instructed as they go their rounds to call out every night, 'Past 12 o'clock, beware of the East India Company'" (Life and Writings of John Dickinson).

The Bostonians, of course, could not be moderate and so they permitted the ships to enter, and then pitched the cargo overboard. At Charleston the tea was landed, as suggested by James & Drinker, and rotted in the warehouse. At Annapolis the tea was burned. At New York the captain was warned and kept out by not attempting to land. The Philadelphians were careful not to allow Captain Ayres to enter, but permitted him to formally protest, graciously loaned him the money to revictual his ship and bade him depart in peace. The events of the next year and the one thereafter followed in rapid succession and all tended directly to independence. If the perusal of these letters shall incite to a careful review of the history of this period in the life of our Nation, their preservation will not have been in vain. They surely are an interesting and valuable addition to the local history of Philadelphia and of Friends' connection with it.

THOMAS B. TAYLOR.

LETTERS OF JAMES & DRINKER.

LONDON, 26th May, 1773.

MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER,

Dear Sirs,—

I take the first opportunity of acquainting you that the East India Company have obtained leave by act of Parliament to export their Tea from England duty free, and that in a very short time perhaps a month a Cargoe will be sent by them to Boston for to be sold in that place on their acc't & they mean to keep America so well supplied that the trade to Holland for that article must be greatly affected.

I am,

Dear Sirs,

Your most obed't Serv't

Fred'k Pigon Jun'r

for self & Benj'n Booth.

The Tea is to be subject to the duty payable in America.

(Endorsed on the above letter is the following)

Sirs,—

I was out of Town when this Letter arrived by the Pkt. which is the reason of it's having been detained a few days.

The regulation about Tea is talked of after this manner. That the India Comp'y will sell their Tea so low at Boston, it must find its way all over the continent, and therefore had better be received from London at once. The only persons who are suspected of making opposition are the smugglers, all professed Sons of Liberty; but no person that I have conversed with scruples to say "make me the Agent, and I'll undertake to land the Tea, and sell it too." There are many surmises who will be the Agent here. Reade & Kelly write their friends that they have made strenuous applications. I have pointed out to Pigon by this Packet, the inconveniences that will attend the appointment of more than one Agent at the same port, and have desired him to use his influence in preventing it.

Your favor of the 27th ultimo. is before me, which I hope to have the pleasure of answering in Person on Thursday seven-night, meanwhile I remain Sirs,

Your most obed't Serv't

New York,
4th August, 1773.

BEN BOOTH.

To

MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER,
Merchants,
Philadelphia.

London, 26th May, 1773, from Pigon & Booth, & letter annexed from Benj. Booth dated New York 4th August 1773.

LONDON, 27th May 1773.

MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER,

Dear Sirs,—

I have already wrote you of this date which letter I desire may be made public.

By that you will observe the intention of the East India Company. On the arrival of their Teas in Boston they are subject to the duty payable in America I think of 3 d Sterling, and as Boston have admitted the Teas from England that place will most likely be the Port to which the Comp'y will export, the consequence of which will be that the duty will be paid and afterwards should the English Tea be cheaper than the Dutch, Philada., NewYork and other ports on the continent will smuggle it in from Boston instead of Amsterdam; this will certainly happen if your City's should refuse to purchase or to drink the Teas which have paid a duty in your own provinces.

I have made application to some of the Directors & have the promise of the Deputy Chairman that the house I recommend in Philada. and New York shall have a share of the consignments made to those ports by the

Co. provided any goes and am inclined to think they will send a Cargoe to your City's which if you refuse to become purchasers of the vessels must have direction to go to Boston or elsewhere. I shall esteem myself happy to introduce so good a Commission to you, and am for Self and Partner

Dear Sirs,
Your much obliged & Honorable Serv't
F. PIGON JUN'R.

To
MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER
Merchants,
Philadelphia.

London, 27th May, 1773, from Pigon & Booth.

LONDON, 7th July, 1773.

MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER,

Dear Sirs,—

Believe the Tea affair will soon take place, also that you will be appointed one of the agents for the Company.

* * * * * * We remain respectfully,
Dear Sirs,
Your most obed't Serv'ts
PIGON & BOOTH.

To
MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER
Merchants
Philadelphia.

Per Packet.

London, 7th July, 1773, Copy from Pigon & Booth.

LONDON, 24th July 1773.

MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER,

Dear Sirs,

* * * * * The Tea affair is in forwardness at the India house. Mr. Samuel Wharton desires to be remembered to you, he is endeavoring to get his Brothers Thos. & Isaac as one of the Agents, at same time he joins me in putting your house as another. The particulars it is needless to write till somehow determined. We remain in great haste.

Your much obliged h'ble Serv'ts

(Copy, original per Catherine).

(On the back of the above letter is written the following:—)

LONDON, 4th August 1773.

MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER,

Dear Sirs,—

You have herewith Copy of our last. Having wrote our house fully on the subject of Teas by this packet, beg leave to refer you to a Copy of said Letter on the subject, also to what Sam'l Wharton writes his Brothers in which he treats particularly on the Political ground, it being his opinion the Americans will not object to the importations. We have been so happy to obtain for you a share of the Commission and be the event as it may, we could not but have taken great blame to ourselves had we neglected the application in your behalf. * * * * * * We conclude in much haste, Sirs,

Your most obed't & humble Serv'ts,
PIGON & BOOTH.

To
MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER,
Merchants
Philadelphia.

London, 24th July & 4th Aug., 1773, from Pigon & Booth.

NEW YORK, 29th September 1773.

Sirs,—

We wrote you the 17th current since which we are without any of your favours. Last Sunday arrived here the Rosamond, Captain Miller, after a short passage from London, which he left so suddenly (in order to get the start of two others) that he brought very few letters, but he has given us the following verbal intelligence. That the New York Captains had been applied to by the India Company to take in Tea, which they refused. That they then chartered a vessel, and were beginning to load her with Tea for this Port, and had appointed Kelly, Lott & Co.; Henry White, and ourselves their Agents here, and that some Quaker was appointed at Philadelphia. He further added that the Tea was to be sold at Publick Sale as in London; this has caused a little hubbub among us, and various sentiments are expressed. We shall advise you further as anything material turns up and are

Sirs

Your most obed't Serv'ts
PIGON & BOOTH.

To
MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER
Merchants in
Philadelphia.

New York, 29th Sept., 1773, from Pigon & Booth.

New York, 4th October 1773.

Sirs,—

I have received your favour of the 29th ultimo. Last post I forwarded you a copy of Mr. Pigon's letter on the subject of Tea; since which I have had a meeting with Mr. Lott and Mr. White, and on comparing notes we found we were to expect a determined opposition on the part of the Smugglers, who are a formidable body among the Merchants, and will of themselves be able to raise a considerable Mob, including a great number of retainers, such as Boatmen, Along-Shore men, Carmen and Porters, who are all paid highly for their services, and therefore interested against us. It seems a Vessel is chartered to bring the Teas, but which port she will first touch at, we are yet to learn. Report says she will first come hither and discharge all the Teas, which are to be sent in other bottoms to Philada. and Boston. This however we cannot readily believe, and should rather suppose, as a difficulty was expected to arise upon the landing, that she would first touch at Philada., then here, and afterwards go to Boston if it could not be landed at the other ports. This seems to be the most natural conclusion, and we believe you will agree with us that it would be fortunate if it should be so ordered. If she touches first at your Port, we suppose the Tea may be landed with a tenth part of the opposition that it would meet with here, because we have ten times the number of People interested in preventing it, but if she should come hither first, and we should be baffled in the first attempt, it would give strength to the opposition with you, and our being unable to land the Teas, would establish a precedent that will for ever after render it impracticable either with you or us. If you see this matter in the same light that we do, you will no doubt be willing to join us in the expense of keeping a Vessel off Cape May, and another off Sandy Hook, with orders signed by the Agents at both ports directed to the Master of the Vessel, requiring him first to proceed to Philada. if it can be done without prejudice to the Insurance. What I have wrote you will consider as addressed to all the Agents, whom you will no doubt consult upon this occasion. It may not be amiss to inform you that every measure will be pursued that is likely to infuse a malignant spirit among your Citizens, and we shall not be surprised to see emissaries dispatched for that purpose. With respect to ourselves as Agents to the Company, we mean to be very firm to the trust reposed in us, that we will neither be awed by the number of our opponents nor terrified by their threats, fully convinced that they act upon interested motives. We have maturely considered that if the East-India Company should choose to lodge all their Goods in Warehouses on this Continent, and pay a Million of Money to Government by virtue of any Act of Parliament whatever, that it can in no respect be said to infringe the liberty of an American Subject.

We shall be glad to receive an immediate answer to this, and to know your sentiments in general upon a subject that concerns you equally with ourselves. If anything is to be done no time ought to be lost, for a Ship

is soon loaden with Tea, and she may be here even before we begin to expect her. The handle which the Smugglers have laid hold of, with a view of interesting the whole body of Merchants, is a very specious one—they say the India Company are endeavoring to monopolize the Tea Trade, and by this regulation will effectually exclude every other person from importing Tea. Tho' this may be litterally true, yet as the Tea will be sold here at Publick Sale under the same regulation as in London, surely the Dealers in Tea can purchase here with greater security, than at 3000 Miles distant by means of a Factor.

I am, Sirs,
Your most obed't Serv't
BEN. BOOTH.

To
MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER
Merch'ts in
Philadelphia.

New York, 4th Octo., 1773, from Pigon & Booth.

PHILADA., 10th Mo. 5th, 1773.

Respected Friends,

On the evening of the 3rd Instant we wrote you a few lines to go by William Rickman the next morning in the Land Stage, which we expect may be with you this evening or to-morrow morning with the several setts of Exchange inclosed therein. We there mentioned our intentions of conferring with Thomas Wharton & Jon'n Browne, which we have had an opportunity of doing, but very little arises from thence to communicate, as they can state the matter in no new light and until we have a more particular Acc't of the plan laid down by the India Directors & their instructions for executing the same, the difficulties which may attend the Scheme cannot be pointed out by us. Yet we wait to hear from you whether anything material has occur'd upon the late meeting of the New York Agents.

We find many people in this City ready enough to say, the Tea ought not to be received when it arrives & no one should purchase it &c. &c.—but we don't discover as yet that Spirit of opposition, which seem'd to govern formerly in the Case of the Stamp & Revenue Acts. Many people reason coolly on the matter & say if our neighbors of Boston & the other Colonies admit the Tea, we should also & not to be dupes to them as indeed we were during the Non-importation agreem't. For we find divers quantities of Tea have been entere'd at our Customs House from Sept. 1771 to August last, which have arrived from Halifax, Boston & Rhode Island, all which had paid the Duty in question and this shows that those places have been in the practice of importing the Teas & paying the Duty imposel thereon by what has been called the Revenue Act. And we are informed that all the Colonies to the Southward of this have

constantly imported from England and of consequence paid the Duty. And to us the Case of the East India Company seems materially to differ from that of the American Importer, for the Company finding that our Colony and yours were furnished with Teas by Smugglers, have come to this determination that they, who are a Body Politic within the Island of Great Britain and not Americans nor American Importers, will pay the Duty, (for if Agents pay it for them and on their acc't, it is in fact the same as if they were present & paid it themselves), and after such Duty is paid, then by a Public Sale dispose of quantities so low as to knock up the contraband Trade so far as it relates to that Article, and which has so direct a tendency to corrupt the Morals of all engaged therein & destroy the most solemn ties which the laws of our Country have made for the good of society.

We think no time should be lost in obtaining from the Custom House Books in Boston & Rhode Island a Certified Acc't of all Teas imported there from England which have paid the Duty this commodity so imported is subject to. Such an Acc't will tend much to quiet any opposition that may be made here & we suppose it would have the same effect with you. We therefore wish you would promote this step as soon as may be & when the Certificate or information is obtained to advise us the needful thereon.

S. Wharton hinted the propriety of the Agents appointed for this place meeting those of N. York in some part of the Jersies about mid-way, to consult on the proper steps to be pursued. As yet we don't see the use of such a meeting but you may think of it.

Just now we have your favor of the 4th and tho' we have gone over the contents with a good degree of care & attention, yet time don't admit our communicating to the other Agents what you have wrote on the Subject which concerns us all, or to collect our own tho'ts so as to give you our Sentiments on the several matters mentioned. It was natural enough for the New York Agents from the present appearance of things amongst them, to be thoughtful about the reception & Landing of the Tea upon its arrival. But so far as we can judge in the short time we have had to consider of the matter, it appears too important to be suddenly determined on, if at all, that of employing Vessels to look out & Order the Tea to a different port from that which was intended by the India Directors. We shall lose no time in consulting the other Agents & embrace the next post or earlier opportunity of advising the result of such conference,—untill when we must rest your

Assured Friends.

10 Mo. 5th, 1773, to Pigon & Booth, New York.

Respected Friends,— PHILADELPHIA, 10 Mo. 7th, 1773.

We have since ours by last post communicated to Thomas Wharton & Jon'n Browne the contents of your favor of the 4th current and

what we wrote to you preceding and after the rec't thereof, the 5th Instant. Their views and ours seem nearly the same as to the propriety of employing two small Vessels or Pilot Boats to await near Cape May & Sandy Hook for the arrival of the Ship with the Tea from London.— Altho' that measure might on some accounts be desirable, yet there appears so much danger as to our own private Fortunes & that of bringing on us the Public Censure, in the pursuit of it, that we all think it will be much the best to let the matter take its course under the Orders of the India Directors untill it comes before the Agents at their respective places of Action, when we mean to preserve Temper and firmness, not to be aggravated or drawn into an undue warmth by the forward & busy Spirits of some that may probably be active on the Occasion. — Yet at same time to endeavor to be steady in fullfilling the Trust reposed in us, unawed by the Bustle & Noise that may be made by any person or persons whatsoever, believing with you that in general the opposition will arise from Interested motives and of consequence not deserve our serious attention, nevertheless, where Men of principle and Candour call upon us & drop their Sentiments in a Friendly manner as becoming fellow Citizens, desirous of ours & the public peace—we shall think it our business to pay a respectfull attention to such & if not convinced by their arguments at least not offend by an unfriendly reception of persons so conducting.

We have it hinted to us and we are ready to believe it, that a Letter or Letters have been wrote to Boston, inquiring the part that would be acted there & inciting to a steady opposition, and are told that some pains have been taken in this City to sound the dispositions of the people upon this question, whether upon arrival of the Tea it should be suffer'd to be landed—and that a difference of sentiment prevailed, some were for its being received quietly & then Measures to be adopted effectually to prevent its being bought or sold. Others would by no means assent to its being landed. But we rather think Men of property & weight will generally be for suffering it to be landed & Stored.

We don't find any Letter by this Post from you and as nothing further occurs upon the Interesting Subject before us, we conclude with assuring you of our continued attention thereto & writing from time to time what may occur thereon—& requesting a like care may rest with the Agents in your City to impart to us as early as may be every material matter that may relate to the Agency, being with Esteem your assured Friends.

10 Mo. 7, 1773

To
PIGON & BOOTH.

New York, 8th Octo. 1773.

Sirs,—

We received your favour of 3rd current, inclosing four Bills of Exchange value 330 Pds. 16. Am. We have also received your favour of the 5th current, giving us the result of your conference with Messrs. Wharton & Browne. We have used nearly the same Arguments that you have, with the cool and dispassionate, but the number of those that will listen to any reason we find to be very few. The cry is, if this Tax is submitted to, it will immediately be followed by others, and that if the India Company succeed in establishing a Monopoly of one Commodity, they will also attempt a second and a third, till the whole Foreign Trade of this port falls into the hands of a few monopolizers; this last argument we observe weighs more with the Merchants in general than the other, for by a measure of this kind they consider themselves as totally excluded from the importation of Tea, and they say this may soon extend to many other Articles. The general voice seems to be against the landing of the Tea, but the more moderate are for having it landed and not sold; we are most afraid of the last measure, for the Freight and Duties of 600 Chests of Tea will amount to above 3000 Pds. Sterl'g, so that they may not only lock up the Tea, but our Money along with it. Hand Bills were circulated last night entitled the Alarm No. 1. It contains a short history of the rise and progress of the East India Company and is in general such a dull labored piece, that we did not think it worth the postage. We shall take the proper measures to get information from Boston and Rhode Island respecting the Tea that has been landed there and paid the Duty, it may be of some service to you, tho' we fear it will be of little to us.

We are, Sirs,
Your most hble Serv'ts,
Pigon & Booth.

Exchange 80 per C't.

To
Messrs. James & Drinker
Merchants in
Philadelphia.

New York, 8th Oct., 1773, from Pigon & Booth.

New York, 13th Oct. 1773.

Sirs,—

We have received your favour of the 9th current inclosing a piece signed Scavolus, who is a very different Writer from the Author of the Alarm. No. 2 of that Paper is inclosed; we cannot now meet with the preceding Number, it consisted chiefly of extracts from Rapin's History of England. There are two points in which you do not seem to be of the same opinion with us. It appears to be your sentiments that the

India Company will direct which Port the Vessel shall first touch at; but this did not appear to be the case when it was in agitation to ship 600 Chests for this port. The three Friends of the Agents here seemed to have the whole of that matter under their management, and each preferred the Vessel he wished to serve. We therefore are of opinion that the whole direction of the Voyage will be left to those Gentlemen who have become our Secruities, and if they have any discretionary powers, it is more than probable they will transfer them to us. You say it will be easy to raise the Money for the Duties, by obtaining an indulgence from the Custom House; this we can also procure, but it must be by giving Bonds for the Money, which Bonds will be in force against us if the Tea should either be burnt or locked up so as never to be sold. Our private intelligencers inform us that the common people are very slow at apprehending this to be a matter of so much moment as the Smugglers would represent it, for the idea of a monopoly dwells so strongly on their minds that they have almost forgot the Tax; and several Tradesmen of weight and influence upon application being made to them to appear warmly in the opposition, have been heard to declare, that, they thought it was a dispute between the Merchants, and ought to be settled among themselves. We also learn that the retailers of Tea are not easily brought over; the Smugglers have for sometime past put a heavy Yoke upon their Necks, which they seem very desirous to shake off. It is something singular that there should not at this time be more Tea in Town than will supply the demands of this City above a fortnight longer, and tho' there are great quantities at St. Eustatia, it will be four or five weeks before any is expected to arrive.

Scavolus is reprinted here, and is now dispersing thro' the City. We have no Letters from you by this Post, so that we have only to add that we are

Sirs,

Your most obed't Serv'ts

Pigon & Booth.

To

Messrs. James & Drinker

Merchants in

Philadelphia.

New York, 13th Oct., 1773, from Pigon & Booth.

Philada., 14th of 10 Mo. 1773.

Esteemed Friends,

Pigon & Booth, New York.

We have just now rec'd yours of 13th Instant and shall note its Contents & the paper inclosed.

From all we can yet learn our Tradesmen & common Country People take the matter as yours do, but our Merchants & those people who have been Famous in the late Times for Opposition to the Stamp Papers &

Revenue Laws are warm on this Occasion, & just now there is put on the Coffee House Book a Notice to the Inhabitants to meet next Seventh day at 2 o'clock at the State House to consider of the most effectual methods to prevent the Landing the Tea & Oppose the Scheme of the East India Company to inslave the Colonies &c. &c.

And we have it intimated to us that a Committee will then be appointed to confer with the Agents in this City & probably demand of them what part they mean to act upon the arrival of the Tea, of which we shall hear more and advise.

Our papers contain one or two pieces on this subject which will no doubt be with you.

As we write to you as Friends with whom we have an intimate & near connexion & are therefore less on our guard in imparting our sentiments than we should otherwise be, we therefore request all our Letters on this Subject may be carefully kept to yourselves and we shall observe the like caution here with your Letters. Time don't admit our adding more than being

Your assured Friend,

14th of 10 Mo., 1773. Letter to Pigon & Booth at New York.

Sirs,—

New York, 18th October 1773.

We have received your favour of the 14th current. On Thursday evening there was a partial meeting of the Merchants, or more properly of the Smugglers, which produced Hand Bills on Friday morning, desiring all the Merchants to meet at the Coffee House the same day at noon, to thank the London Captains for so nobly refusing to carry the Tea; and altho' these Hand Bills were stuck up in every part of the Town, no more people met than usual, and after reading a paper which few attended to, it was concluded with a very faint Huzza. Their plan was to have carried this measure in the Chamber of Commerce, at the last monthly meeting; but only five or six members attending, they could not make a Board. They had no better success in endeavoring to form a Committee, for they justly concluded that a Committee of Smugglers would not be proper; so they applied to Mr. Isaac Low, the former Chairman, desiring him to call the old Committee, but he thought fit to decline it; from whence it appears that, they can have no Committee without calling a general meeting of the Merchants, and it does not seem an easy matter to bring them together upon this occasion; from all which, and the universal backwardness among the common People to join in the opposition, we are led to conclude that if the Agents act with a proper spirit, there will not be much difficulty either in landing or selling the Tea. You will observe their plan to be deeply laid with respect to obtaining a resignation of the Agents at either place; if you were to resign, it would add great strength to the opposition here, and our resigning would no doubt have the same effect with you.

If any application is made to us before the Tea comes, our reply will be that, we have not a line from the India Company, and can give no answer till the Tea arrives and we receive our instructions from them. But we look still further; we suppose the Tea to be come, and the opposition arrived to such a height that it may neither be prudent or safe to hold out any longer; we shall then require as the only condition upon which we will resign, that, if our private property must be sacrificed to the Publick good, before we give up so valuable a Commission, we must be well assured that neither the Merchants, nor any Retailer, will buy, receive, or sell any English Tea, however CHEAP IT MAY BE SOLD in the other Colonies. We may be told that such an agreement already subsists, but circumstances are greatly altered since that Agreement was made; we will appeal to the Custom House Books to prove that Tea has been frequently brought from the other Colonies, even when the difference in price gave no such temptation; and we can safely appeal to the judgment of the most partial, that if Tea should be at 2/6 per lb. in Boston or Rhode Island, and 4 or 5/ here, whether we have any security that it will not be brought here and sold, unless there is a new, a solemn engagement entered into, by every Merchant and Retailer in the City. The justice of this condition will strike every reasonable man, and it will effectually pose the opposition, for out of 100 Retailers, they cannot find 10 that will sign any agreement whatever. There would then be no difficulty in landing or selling the Tea, because we could plead a majority in our favour. When you have considered this, you will be pleased to give us your sentiments, how far you think such a plan may be serviceable to you or us, supposing us to be reduced to the alternative of putting it in execution, or immediately resigning our Commission. It is not unlikely that by reflecting upon it, you may be able to set it in a more forcible light; at the same time we assure you that we consider everything we write or receive from you on this subject, to be done in the greatest confidence, and that we shall never shew any of your Letters, nor even make use of your arguments unless when the latter may be necessary, to revive the drooping spirits of our Colleagues, which we are sorry to say too often want a Cordial. Pepper for the first time this three years now sells for a profit, and will soon bear a good price; indeed the demand for Goods in general is greatly altered for the better. We shall be obliged to you to desire your Broker to negotiate for us on the best terms he can, the inclosed Bill, being Rich'd Brewer on Thomas Shubrick of Charlestown for 77 Pds. Sterl'g.

We are, Sirs,
Your most hble. Serv'ts
PIGON & BOOTH.

To
MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER,
Merch'ts in
Philadelphia.

New York, 18 Oct., 1773, from Pigon & Booth.

PHILADA., 10 Mo. 19th, 1773.

Respected Friends,—

Since we wrote you on the 14th Instant we remain without any of your further favours. We then mentioned a Meeting intended at the State House on Seventh day last—at which if our information is right, about 250 or 300 persons were assembled. James Allen, Esq., it is said, was to have been Chairman, but that the Gov'r, his Bro'r-in-law interfered—some say Doctor Thomas Cadwallader, & others, John Ross, Esq., acted as Chairman. However the latter Harrangued the people, tho' we don't find that any material matters passed except the Resolves proposed as mentioned in the Public Papers. The Committee appointed to wait on the East India Directors' Agents were Geo. Clymer Esq., Peter Knight, Jeremiah Warder Jun'r, Wm. Moulder, Thomas Penrose, Benj'n Loaley, Abr'm Bickley, John Allen Esq., John Wilcocks, Wm. West, Thomas Barclay & Lambert Cadwallader—& yesterday all of them except Wm. West call'd on us about 11 o'clock & afterwards waited on Thos. & Isaac Wharton, & in the Evening at the Coffee House, had the following Report drawn up & read to a number of persons waiting to hear the result of their conference with us.

[The report unfortunately was not preserved.—T. B. T.]

* * * * * * * * *

After reading what related to Thos. & Isaac Wharton a loud clap ensued & upon reading their report of our Answer to their request a Hiss was heard from divers in the Coffee House. We have not been able to collect the Answer delivered by Thos. & Isaac Wharton; they assure us it was the same in substance with ours, but if that was the Case, the Committee must have acted an invidious part. This we know, that T. & J. W. & Jon'n Browne did agree to make the same Answer, and if either have or do depart from it, we can't help it, but as honest Men, who were to account at a future day, when reason may take place of Rage & Faction, we could not think ourselves justified in going further in our reply to the Committee who made a peremptory demand that we should resign our Commission (before we had any) from the East India Directors.

Thus you see we are in the way of trouble & no doubt but that class of Men among us called the Sons of Liberty will treat us as very bad Men, for acting a part which we conceive becomes every good & honest Man circumstanced as we are, & truly desirous of preserving the peace & good order of the City & to prevent the evils which the mad and ungovernable conduct of some might be a means of bringing on us.

We have just now received your favour of 18th Inst. & shall attentively consider the Contents & by some future conveyance impart what occurs thereon to

Your assured Friend,

New York, 20th Oct. 1773.

Sirs,—

* * * * * The tea intended for this Port was actually shipped by the Nancy Captain Caldwell, and our F. P. says, he has great cause to think that by an Agreement with the Treasury the Duty would not be paid in America. Mr. White's friend writes it is absolutely so settled, and the Vessel would sail in 7 days from the 26th of August. This is joyful news, and will be so heavy a stroke upon the Smugglers, that we shall not wonder if it drives them to some act of desperation. We see by your favor of yesterday, that this Letter will relieve you from some anxiety. The Captain who brings this Account is a Stranger and has circulated a report that the Tea will not come at all, and as we hear of no Letters on the subject besides our own, we let it pass so, till time undeceives them; if it answers no other end, it will be a means of keeping the Town quiet.

We are, Sir,

Your most hble Serv'ts

Pigon & Booth.

To

Messrs. James & Drinker

Merch'ts in

Philadelphia.

New York, 20th Oct., 1773, from Pigon & Booth.

RESOLVES OF A "GREAT NUMBER OF THE INHABITANTS, MET AT THE STATE HOUSE OCTOBER 16TH, 1773."

Following are the resolves alluded to in the foregoing letter:

At a meeting of a great number of the Inhabitants of Philada. on Saturday the 16th Octob'r, the following Resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

1st. That the Disposal of their own Property is the inherent Right of Freemen, that there can be no Property in that which another can of Right take from us without our Consent, that the Claim of Parliament to tax America is in other words a Claim of Right to levy Contributions, on us at Pleasure.

2d. That the Duty imposed by Parliament upon Tea landed in America is a Tax on the Americans or levying Contributions on them without their Consent.

3d. That the express Purpose for which the Tax is levied on the Americans, namely, for the Support of Government, administration of Justice and Defence of his Majesty's Dominions in America has a direct Tendency to render Assemblies useless & to introduce Arbitrary Government & Slavery.

4th. That a virtuous & steady Opposition to the ministerial Plan of governing America is absolutely necessary to preserve even the Shadow of Liberty & is a duty which every Freeman in America owes to his Country, to himself and to his Posterity.

5th. That the Resolution lately entered into by the East India Company to send out their Tea to America, subject to the Payment of Duties on its being landed here, is an open attempt to enforce this ministerial Plan, & a violent attack upon the Liberties of America.

6th. That it is the Duty of every American to oppose this Attempt.

7th. That whoever shall, directly or indirectly, countenance this Attempt or in any wise aid or abett in unloading, receiving or vending the Tea sent or to be sent out by the East India Company while it remains subject to the Payment of a Duty here, is an Enemy to his Country.

8th. That a Committee be immediately chosen to wait on those Gentlemen, who it is reported are appointed by the East India Company to receive & sell said Tea, & request them from a Regard to their own Characters & the Peace & good Order of the City & Province immediately to resign their Appointment.

As the Committee lately appointed at the State House, and who called on us on the 18th Instant have reported that our Answer to them was not so candid and explicit as that of Thomas and Isaac Wharton, we think it proper & just to ourselves to inform the Publick, that in the Conversation with the Committee we did tell them what we now repeat, *that we neither meant or intended to do anything that would be disagreeable to our fellow citizens* or words of this import, and also "that our Ideas of the American Revenue Act, were the same with those of our Fellow Citizens generally" which we have since been told is a part of our Answer not sufficiently explicit. We seriously declare, that it never occurred to us, that these words could mean or bear any other construction than this generall Sentiment amongst the People "That if the said Act was enforced here, it would be an infringement of our common Rights as Englishmen".

And the Public may be assured that in the Conversation we had with the Committee, it was our intent and meaning, however our words may have been construed, *That the People should be left under no doubts or anxiety, respecting our Conduct,* which, as we before told the Committee, we intend shall be open and Friendly.

JAMES & DRINKER.

Philadelphia October 22nd, 1773.

The late Committee are glad to hear that Messrs. James & Drinker have thought proper to enter into an Explanation of the answer made to their request the 18th instant, as they conceive it stood considerably in need of one.

Its Ambiguity was striking to every Member of the Committee, and has since in the Publick Opinion well justified them in saying, it was neither Candid nor Explicit, and the Committee are particularly well pleased to hear that by the declaration they then made *"that their Ideas of the American Revenue Act were the same with those of their Fellow Citizens generally"* they meant that *"If the said Act was enforced here it would be an Infringement of our Common rights as Englishmen"*, a matter about which the Committee were in doubt, as those Gentlemen in the Conversation with them insinuated that the Resolutions agreed to at the State-House might not speak the general Sense of the Inhabitants,—which, said they, "was difficult to be known".

But the Committee cannot help thinking the Declaration still defective in some points,—for it is rather explanatory of their Sentiments respecting the Act in question, than of their intended Conduct, if they should be called upon by the East India Company to put it in Execution. They entertain no doubt, however, that their Conduct will *now* be such as their Fellow Citizens have a right to require of them,—as a contrary one after their explicit declaration of the mischievous and fatal Tendency of the Act would be indeed doubly criminal.

The Committee assure the Public that what they gave as the Answer of Messrs. James & Drinker was deliberately given by them—taken Verbatim in writing—and afterwards read over to them, and acknowledged as such—and that they have since, neither added thereto, nor taken from it.

October 23rd

New York, 25th October 1773.

Sirs,—

* * * * * * The last news from England has given a very different appearance to the opposition; some of the first people begin to look forward to a period when they may be able to wrest the Commission out of our hands, or at least share it with us, and we have already been told with a sneer, that we must not expect to keep it long to ourselves; we pretend great fears on this Account, and say we are apprehensible least there should not be an opposition sufficient to give us a claim of merit with the East India Company for continuing the Commission where it now is. * * * *

We are, Sirs,

Your most hble Serv'ts

Pigon & Booth.

Messrs. James & Drinker

Merch'ts in

Philadelphia.

New York, October 25th, 1773, from Pigon & Booth.

PHILADA., 10th Mo. 26th, 1773.

Respected Friends,—

The more we see and are informed of the present Spirit & disposition prevailing among the people of this city, respecting the expected importation of Tea from London, we have the more Reason to believe that a determination hath been form'd to raise an opposition to it in all & every shape, either if it arrives subject to the payment of a Duty here, or if that Duty has been paid in England. Nay, we believe a strong opposition & much noise would be made if the Act of Parliam't was Repealed & no Revenue raised or to be raised from the Tea.—In a few words the Interest & Inclination of many is to prevent it if they can, and the more moderate are not immediately interested in an Opposition to their measures.

& Virtue appears Feeble in all. We mean as to pointing out & supporting cool and Moderate Measures tending to get the Revenue Act repealed. This is the case here just now & every step is pursued & many falsehoods circulated for the purpose of interesting & warming the passions of the people upon this occasion.

The Resolves of a number of People met at the State House on the 16th Instant. you have doubtless seen,—a material one was, that the Tea should not be landed, & upon the Committees' applying to us on the 18th requesting our immediate resignation of a Commission we were not then neither are we yet invested with, we told them that if the Tea did arrive & come under our care, we must as Honest Men do our duty as well as case would Admit for the Preservation of the property committed to our care. Whether this, or a fix'd determination in them to use us very unkindly if we did not immediately resign, was the cause, we know not, but this is certain,—The proceedings of the Committee have been arbitrary & seem to have been particularly directed to make us obnoxious to the People. Conscious we are, that our conduct hath been regulated with great Integrity of Heart & as far as our Judgements would serve us, leading to peace, having those two objects principally in view, in our Answer to the Committee & the tenor of our Conduct upon this occasion, to discharge ourselves as upright Honest Men ought to do, & as much as may be to avoid doing anything which might raise a disturbance or break the peace of the City.

Your assured Friends,

10 Mo. 26th, 1773, to Pigon & Booth, London.

NEW YORK, 27th October 1773.

Sirs,—

We duly received your favour of the 23rd current. It is a singular circumstance and well worth remarking, that there should be so much more opposition to the landing of the Tea with you than with us, and it has led us to reflect upon the causes that have operated so much in

our favour. We before wrote you that the persons interested in the Smuggling Trade make a very formidable body, but their leaders are some of them Men of such detestable characters, that the Merchants despise them. and the common people avoid them; so that the excessive pains which these Men have taken to raise a dust, has had a contrary effect. To-morrow there will be a publication on our side of the question, which will set the above persons in so ridiculous a light, that it will make them the laughing stock of the whole town; we seen it in manuscript, and do confess we never saw anything so well adapted to the intellects of the common people. You shall be sure to have it by the next post.

We have just now received your favour of the 26th current. We shall carefully observe the contents and are

Sirs

Your most obed't Serv'ts

PIGON & BOOTH.

To

MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER

Merch'ts in

Philadelphia.

New York, 27th Oct., 1773, Pigon & Booth.

NEW YORK, 28th October 1773.

Sirs,—

I observe by your favor of the 26th current, that you have fallen into the same mistake that many others have done here, by supposing the duty of 3 d. per lb. on Tea will be paid in London; to clear up that point, we have caused a clause of the late Act to be reprinted in Rivington's Paper, which is inclosed; by which it will appear that the payment of all Duties on both sides of the Water, is as much suspended for the present, as if the Act was totally repealed. I propose making frequent excursions to the Hook in my own Boat till the Tea arrives; this will be one quite privately, as we steer the same course to go to my Farm. I mention this that you need not be surprised if your Letters should not be answered so punctually as heretofore. It is certainly a desirable object that I should see the Captain, with whom I am personally acquainted, even before he takes a pilot on board; for the Vessel being a Stranger, may by prudent management be anchored under the Guns of the Fort, and the Governor and ourselves may get our Letters before it is known to one other person in the City. I am, for F. Pigon & self.

Sirs,

Your most obed't Serv't

BEN BOOTH.

To

MESSRS. JAMES & DRINKER

Merch'ts in

Philadelphia.

New York, 28th Oct., 1773, Pigon & Booth.

PHILADA., 29th 10th Mo. 1773.

Esteemed Friends,—

PIGON & BOOTH, New York.

We have just now received your acceptable Fav'r of 27th Instant & shall be pleased to see Virtue & true Patriotism Triumph over a bad set of Men,—Men capable of Fraud, Bribery & Perjury—Men who have made a Science of carrying on & leading others into Views so harmful to Society & destructive of true Patriotism. We have even some things wrote here, that would do honor to the Writers if the people had Ears to hear & Hearts at this time to Assent to Truth & Reason.

The rec't of the Production of your Place we shall anxiously look for & we shall pay due honor to your draft in Favour Hugh and A. Wallace.

All & Falconer are to take their Letters away the 31st Instant which engages us too closely to add at this time, but a future may point out some of the real causes of the difference between the Conduct of your Place & ours. Just to give the Clue, our Governor is hereditary, all our great Men & Affairs of government are in his Appointment independent of the Crown. Yours are not &c.

We are always your assured & Faithful Friends,

Copy of our Letter to Pigon & Booth of New York, 29th of 10 Mo., 1773.

PHILADA., 10th Mo. 29th, 1773.

Esteemed Friends,

PIGON & BOOTH, London.

Since we last wrote you respecting the Teas expected to arrive here on Acc't of the India Company,—The Fire hath been gradually kindling & at length rose to a great Heat indeed in this City, we believe far more so, from the best Accounts we can obtain, than at either New York or Boston. Several pieces published for a test in our News Papers tended to inflame the Minds of the People & afterwards, say the 16th inst., a Town Meeting was called at the State House, where several hundreds of the Inhabitants met & made the eight Resolves annexed hereto. On the 18th Instant Eleven persons out of Twelve (who were at that Meeting appointed a Committee) called on us & pursuant to the Resolve, made a preremptory demand of our immediately resigning the Agency. We in our Answer intended to preserve the Peace of the City, by making such a reply as would convince them we did not mean to receive & sell the Teas if they arrived, should it appear that it was opposed by the sensible and Judicious part of the Inhabitants generally, & therefore told them in substance that at present we were no Agents in the matter, but that if a Ship did arrive as expected & we should be concerned in the Agency, that our conduct should be open & Friendly. It seems however that our Answer was exceptionable to those Gentlemen &

they having rec'd some Answer from T. & I. Wharton, the words of which are carefully kept a profound Secret from the Public, have reported "that the Answer rec'd from us is not so Candid & explicit as that rec'd from Thos. & Isaac Wharton." This, with the unkind manner in which it was represented to the Public, has raised a clamour & subjected us to much hard Censure & abuse from many, and it does not now, while so warm a Spirit prevails, seem a proper time to open the Eyes & disabuse the people, who are thus misled for partial & invidious purposes; for it has been given out & taken for granted by many, that we will persevere in receiving & selling the Tea in opposition to the Body of the people. Which is by no means a just state of our disposition or intentions, & what we always kept in view & were determined to do upon this occasion was, that we might after we were fully acquainted with the nature of the Trust committed to our care, discharge & acquit ourselves as Men of Integrity who had to answer for their conduct at a future day. And if the Trust should be of such a nature as to make it imprudent for us to promote the Execution of it here, at least to shew our willingness & care to preserve the property from Damage or Destruction, we conceive a pretty positive declaration of ours to the Committee expressive of such intentions for the preservation of the property and not behaving as if we considered their proceedings Wise or Legal, must have been the offensive matters to them.

We did not forget that you say in yours of 27th May last, *that if we refuse to become purchasers of the Tea, the Vessels must have direction to go to Boston or elsewhere,* and have supposed Instructions would arrive with the Tea, directing the Agents in their proceedings, if the Tea should be so refused. This intimation has been kept altogether to ourselves, as had it been Bruited among the people, it might have fixed them in a determination to send it away at all Events.

A Rumour has circulated that a Ship lately arrived at New York, brings advice that the Duty payable here under the Revenue Act is to be paid with you or settled with the Treasury, since which the conversation of the Town has been handed to us as very different. Some persons now advocate the receiving of the tea & if the Revenue is raised out of it even if it is paid in England, that it ought to lay without proceeding to a Sale untill the obnoxious Act is Repealed--while others declare it should be opposed & not rec'd for two Reasons, first while the Revenue Act remains, the rec't of it will in some Measure be a submission to the Act—and another Reason which some are not ashamed to give, is that the East India Company if suffered to send their Teas here, will make a Monopoly of the Trade & effectually debar private Traders from all advantages to be derived from the importation of Tea from England as formerly—and therefore they are not for allowing the Company the same liberty & privileges of any private Traders.—At same time we are informed that others say that if the Duty is paid in England all opposition should be dropp'd. But upon the whole, things are so

unsettled & sentiments so various, that we are as yet quite uncertain what turn they will take, but are rather inclined to think that nothing less than a total Repeal of the Act for raising a Revenue in America will leave the business of the India Company respecting their Tea, in that peaceable situation we would wish to see it in.

Be the event of this matter as it may, we shall retain a grateful Sense of your Friendship to us & shall be studious to discharge ourselves therein as faithfully & uprightly as may be in the power of your assured

Respected Friends,

Original per Captain Falconer
Duplicate per All.

Oct. 29th, 1773, to Pigon & Booth, London.

[*To be continued.*]

OPENING OF IOWA YEARLY MEETING.

Charles F. Coffin.

[The author of the following paper writes: "This account was written immediately after [my] return home [1863]. It has remained amongst my papers, without publication, until the present time, except that a few years since I sent a copy to Iowa Yearly Meeting to file among its archives."—Editor.]

Iowa Yearly Meeting was opened 9th Month 10th, 1863, at Spring Creek Meeting House about 2½ miles from Oskaloosa, in Mahaska County. Oskaloosa was then estimated to have a population of about 3,500. It was then a beautiful portion of Iowa. The farms were well enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, but the farm houses were generally small frame buildings. Friends were, however, very kind and hospitable, and more persons were accommodated in a small house than would be considered possible in the older States. A Quarterly Meeting Boarding School near the Meeting House afforded accommodation for 50 or 60 Friends, mostly from other Yearly Meetings. Many Iowa Friends came to the Yearly Meeting in their covered wagons, bringing their bedding and food with them. Some of these found shelter in unoccupied houses, others lodged in their wagons, and others in tents—about 300 Friends were thus provided for. This outdoor life was a novel and interesting fea-

ture of the occasion. The interest shown by most of these Friends which led them to make such sacrifices of personal comfort to attend the Yearly Meeting, was truly affecting.

The Yearly Meeting House, which was to be in Oskaloosa, not having been commenced, a temporary shed of rough posts placed in the ground covered and enclosed with unplaned boards, was erected adjoining the Quarterly Meeting House. This shed was 66 feet long by 50 feet wide. Raised galleries were erected, and rough benches set on the ground sufficient to seat about 750. This was occupied by men Friends, and the scene when all were convened, was truly novel and interesting—but God, who dwelleth not in temples made with hands, condescended to be present by the Holy Spirit and the voice of thanksgiving and praise was frequently heard, and seasons of reverent silent worship were greatly enjoyed by those present. The Quarterly Meeting House, 35 by 60, to which was attached a shed 15 by 60 was occupied by Women Friends, about 500 could be accommodated in the house adjoining the shed. The whole number present was from 1,200 to 1,300. Committees were present from the Yearly Meetings of New York, Baltimore, Indiana and Western, composed of 16 men and 14 women Friends. Fourteen Ministers were in attendance with minutes for religious service. David Hunt was appointed Clerk of the Men's Meeting, and Willet Dorland and Enoch Hoag Assistants. The Meeting was mostly composed of young and middle aged Friends of great energy and force of character and much religious weight existed amongst them. Those present from other Yearly Meetings were impressed with the belief that the establishment of the Yearly Meeting would prove to be a blessing to our Religious Society. The business which came before them was transacted with much good feeling, and with order and system. The question as to the location of the Yearly Meeting House was definitely settled and arrangements made to proceed with the building as soon as possible which is estimated to cost from $15,000 to $20,000. A plan was adopted and Friends undertook with little dissent to raise $16,000 as soon as practicable to carry forward the work. It will require some sacrifice to enable them to furnish the means as rapidly as will be required, but they appeared to undertake it cheerfully.

The Indiana Discipline was adopted and a Meeting for Sufferings, and committees on Education, First day Schools, Books and Tracts, and people of Color were appointed. Five Quarterly Meetings form the Yearly Meeting—viz: Salem, Pleasant Plain, Red Cedar (now changed to Springdale), Bangor, and South River. A new Quarterly Meeting was set off from Pleasant Plain, called Oskaloosa, and a committee appointed to visit the Monthly Meetings of Winnesheik, in Northern Iowa, Baraboo, in Wisconsin, and Minneapolis, in Minnesota, on their request for a Quarterly Meeting. The examination of the State of Society was an interesting occasion and much right concern prevailed for the religious growth of the Society. The reports on Education showed 2,403 children between the ages of 5 and 20 amongst them. The whole number of families in the State were estimated at 1,500 and the whole number of members at 6,000 and 8,000 scattered over a wide extent of country. The Second Annual First-day School Conference of Friends in America was held during the Yearly Meeting—a large attendance of delegates from the different Yearly Meetings was present and the average attendance at the Conference was from 600 and 800. The Conference was quite satisfactory to Friends generally.

Friends in attendance at the First Yearly Meeting held in Iowa 9th Month, 1863, who were guests at the Boarding School at Spring Creek, many of whom were delegates from other Yearly Meetings to attend the opening of the Yearly Meeting, and other delegates to the second annual Conference of Teachers and in Friends First-day Schools in the United States which was held during the Yearly Meeting:

From Baltimore Yearly Meeting—John Scott, Wm. A. Thomas, Francis T. King, Deborah C. Thomas, Ann J. Matthews.

From Philadelphia Yearly Meeting—Wm. C. Longstreth, Eliza W. Hinchman (not delegates).

From New York Yearly Meeting—Jesse F. Haines (Lockport), Mary H. Thomas (Union Springs), Robert Lindley Murray (New York), Ruth S. Murray (New York), William Cromwell (New York), Lindley Murray Moore (Rochester), Esther C. Weeks (Mount Kisco), Sarah S. Murray (New York).

From New England Yearly Meeting—James Jones (Maine).

From Canada Yearly Meeting—William Wetherald.

From Indiana Yearly Meeting—Charles F. Coffin, Rhoda M. Coffin, Elijah Coffin, Jr., Luke Thomas, Harriet Steer (Cincinnati), Elgar Brown (Rainsboro, Ohio).

From Western Yearly Meeting—Nathan Elliott Thornton, Andrew B. Tomlinson, Sina Tomlinson (Bloomingdale), Catherine Elliott Thornton, Jesse Kersey, Andrew Wooton.

Benjamin and Jane Hollingsworth, Superintendent and Matron of the School, attended to the provisions, and their kindness and courtesy to their guests was much appreciated. The following Friends from Iowa were also guests at the School:

Barclay Hinchman, Elizabeth M. Hinchman, Sarah M. Hadley, David W. Lupton, Ann M. Lupton, Emma J. Lupton, Grace Haisley, Hannah P. Hunnicutt, Margaret P. Hunnicutt, Lydia A. Wildman, Joseph P. Haines, Sarah Jane Beckwith. (Many of these assisted in the domestic work.)

The problem of lodging and feeding these 40 to 50 persons in one not large house was a serious one, and many of the Friends found themselves in very close quarters, but the novelty and interest of the occasion was great and all enjoyed it. They did not allow the School to be their creditors, but left it in much better condition than they found it. It was not long after until the house caught fire and burned to the ground.

A SKETCH OF FARNHAM MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS. PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, CANADA.

By Joshua Bull.

In the winter or early spring of the year 1801, Gideon Bull, formerly of Danby, Vermont, removed with his family and settled in the eastern part of the Township of Farnham, in the Province of Lower Canada, as it was then called, now the Province of Quebec. His eldest son, Aaron Bull, was then a boy twelve years of age. At that time this part of the country was a "howling wilderness," the land being covered with a dense forest of heavy timber, and the settlers were few and far between. Probably all the families then living within the limits of what now constitutes the Town-

ship of East Farnham could have been counted on the fingers of one hand. Necessarily those pioneer settlers had to endure much hardship, and many privations. Even after they had made an opening in the forests by clearing away the timber so as to be able to raise a little corn and other grain, the nearest mill where they could get it ground was fifteen miles distant, and the only road was a trail through the forest, indicated by marked trees. As they had to take their grain on horse-back and follow this trail through the woods, it required two, and sometimes three days to go to mill, get a bag of corn ground into meal, and return home.

Wild game was plentiful in this primeval forest, and during the fall and winter months year by year Aaron Bull used to spend much of his time in hunting fur-bearing animals, and the proceeds of the sale of the furs thus obtained contributed very materially to increase his little revenue wherewith to pay needful expenses. On one occasion when out hunting he missed his course and was obliged to spend the night in the woods; but being a firm believer in God's overruling providence in the affairs of life, he accepted the incident as providential and became convinced in his mind that the place whereon he was camping should be his future home. This eventually proved to be the case. He always fully believed in the immediate operation of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of men to guide and direct according to the will of God, if His voice is carefully listened to, and His leadings followed. In after years he used frequently to rehearse to his children the story of his early religious experience, and his belief that it was the leading of the Holy Spirit that inclined him to unite with the Society of Friends, when at that time there was no Friend in that part of the country; and no Friends' Meeting nearer than Ferrisburg, Vermont, about eighty miles distant. So strong, however, were his convictions that he made request and was received as a member of Ferrisburg Monthly Meeting, and thus became the first member of the Society of Friends in that part of Canada.

In 1814 he married Philadelphia Knowles, who was also a member; he bought the land and built a log-house in the same place where he had once "camped" all night when lost in the woods years before, as related above, and this became their

home through the remainder of their lives, and formed the nucleus of Farnham Monthly Meeting. Both of them being of a hospitable disposition their house was always open to any and all who were in need of food or shelter. They raised a family of seven children, four boys and three girls, all of whom were lifelong members with Friends, (two of whom are still living). Aaron Bull had two brothers and three sisters, all of whom joined Friends. Meanwhile, some families of Friends came in from the New England States and settled. In 1822 a Preparative Meeting was set up to be held once in three months under the care of a committee. In 1826 this became a fully established Preparative Meeting, subordinate to Ferrisburg Monthly Meeting. In those days they had no regular meeting house, but held their meetings sometimes in one place, and sometimes in another, as circumstances might render it convenient or necessary, but usually in some house vacated for the time being.

Aaron Barton, a member although not recorded a minister, would some times give utterance to language which seemed almost prophetic. On one occasion when Friends were gathered in their meeting and sitting in silence, he arose and solemnly spoke somewhat as follows, "Friends, I feel impressed that something startling will soon come to pass that will make a great stir among us, for I seem to hear a great snapping and cracking right here where I stand." And before the next meeting day the house wherein they were sitting was burned to the ground. In 1834 a committee was appointed to select a location and purchase land on which to build a meeting-house; and Aaron Bull was appointed Trustee to receive and hold a deed thereof in trust for the Society, which office he continued to hold until the time of his death, in 1875. A frame meeting-house, 30 x 36 feet was built in 1835, and this was the first house built in the Township of East Farnham for the special purpose of public worship. The Society of Friends was at that time the strongest and the most influential religious organization in the Township, and no doubt largely influenced the government and management of its public affairs. It has always been a "Temperance Town;" there has never been a licensed saloon for the sale of intoxicating liquors within its borders unto this present day (1908).

In the early days of Farnham Meeting "Traveling Ministers" from other and distant parts frequently visited the Meeting in gospel service, a custom that has become mostly obsolete in these later days, we fear greatly to the loss and detriment of the welfare of our Church. The writer can distinctly recall with much satisfaction some of those messengers of God which visited East Farnham in the days of his boyhood, some sixty and seventy years ago; how my heart used to "burn within me" while I listened to their Gospel messages and goodly counsels and advice. Among the many who visited us in Gospel service in early days were Joseph Hoag of Vermont, famous for his vision, Joseph John Gurney, from England, Lindley Murray Hoag, and Eli Jessup, from Iowa. As a boy I used to be much interested in those "Traveling Ministers," not only in hearing them preach, but also hearing them tell in a conversational way incidents of their experience. One little story which Joseph Hoag seemed to take pleasure in telling was, in substance, as follows:

"When traveling in religious service among the Indians; on one occasion being hungry, he stopped at an Indian home to get something to eat. The Squaw mistress of the wigwam prepared for him the best she had at her command, although it was rather coarse and rudely prepared. When ready, she told him that she had provided for him the best that she had, and if he was a good man he would eat it and be satisfied; but if he was not a good man, it was good enough for him." This Indian woman's idea of the fitness of things greatly pleased "Uncle Joseph," as we familiarly called him. The occasional visits of these servants of God had a wholesome and salutary effect, not only upon our membership, but on the community at large. When public notice was given out that a "Traveling Minister" was expected to be present at the Friends' Meeting on a set day, it was sure to bring out a large number of people to hear him.

In 1840 a Monthly Meeting was set up under the care of a committee of Ferrisburg Monthly Meeting, and in 1842 it was fully established as Farnham Monthly Meeting, subordinate to Ferrisburg Quarterly Meeting, belonging to New York Yearly Meeting. The outlook for the future seemed very encouraging, and for a while the Meeting appeared to be prosperous. At one

time there were seven recorded ministers resident in East Farnham, viz.: Charles Taber, David E. Knowles, Drusilla Knowles, David F. Knowles, Jemima Knowles, Anna Bassett and Sarah Stevens. Charles Taber sat at the head of the meeting until the time of his death, which occurred in 1853, at the age of 70 years. He seemed to have a genuine pastoral gift to care for the flock. It does not appear that the Friends in East Farnham were in any degree affected by the separation of 1827-8; but the "Wilburite" division which followed in the "forties" rent our meeting in twain, and materially reduced our membership. The Meeting never fully recovered from the shock, although some of those who separated from us at the first, reunited with us in later years.

About 1850 it was decided to hold the Quarterly Meeting once a year in East Farnham, in Tenth Month. This arrangement was much appreciated by the members resident here, and the event was looked forward to year by year as a time of refreshing. Usually there would be quite a large number of Friends from Vermont in attendance, and visiting ministers from other parts were generally expected to be present on such occasions with a fresh gospel message to cheer and encourage. Many of the neighbors who belonged to other churches seemed to take just as much interest in attending Friends' Quarterly Meetings as though they were in membership with us. On all such occasions Friends freely opened their houses and vied one with another in entertaining all who attended the Quarterly Meeting. In 1870 the old meeting-house was taken down and reconstructed and enlarged, and made more modern and convenient.

The lapse of time has brought its changes; the old pioneer Friends have long since passed away and gone to their rest and reward, and many of their successors have also followed them; others who might have maintained the Meeting, had they remained here, have removed to other parts: thus the membership became so much reduced that the Monthly Meeting was discontinued and laid down by the Quarterly Meeting in 1903. At the present writing (1908) there are but four surviving members living within the township of East Farnham, and their ages range from 75 to 90 years. Thus the first and only Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends that ever had an existence in the Province of Quebec, is now a thing of the past.

Although the meeting is discontinued, yet we hopefully trust that its influence for good is not entirely gone, nor its fruitage lost; for there are some who were born and grew up here as members of this meeting that have gone forth into other parts, and are making themselves useful members of society in the capacity of ministers, doctors, teachers, etc.

There are three burying grounds in East Farnham belonging to Friends. One a private, or family ground; this was some years ago deeded over to a board of three Trustees appointed by the Judge of the "Court of King's Bench," by request of those interested therein. Of the other two, one was a public ground, in use before any meeting-house was built, and the third was a part of the meeting-house lot. After the Monthly Meeting had been laid down, and by and with the consent and approval of Ferrisburg Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and the concurrence of New York Yearly Meeting, the meeting-house and the two last mentioned burying grounds were deeded to a board of five Trustees of an association organized for the purpose of taking charge of and caring for the same, and chartered according to the requirements of the laws of the Province of Quebec, under the name of "The Friends' Church Cemetery Association," (although none of the Trustees are members of the Friends' Church) with a proviso that the meeting-house may be sold, and removed, not to be occupied on its present location, and the proceeds of such sale to be deposited in a chartered bank for safe keeping, and used from time to time as may be required for the purpose of keeping the burying grounds in proper order and repair.

East Farnham, Province of Quebec, Canada.

A VISIT TO EAST FARNHAM, CANADA, IN 1830.

ROWLAND GREENE.

[In connection with the preceding paper the following extract from an unpublished letter and Journal will be of interest. The writer was Dr. Rowland Greene, of Cranston, Rhode Island (1770-1859). He was a minister, and, in his day, one of the most prominent members of New England Yearly Meeting. Several volumes of his unpublished Journals (1795-1857) are in existence.—Editor.]

Journal—"7th Mo. 16th [1830]. Left Barton and proceeded north through Brownington [Vermont] to E. Davis' Inn and dined. The roads were good, and soon after leaving Barton the country assumed a richer, handsomer form and better cultivated. From thence we rode to Georgeville on Lake Memphismagog [sic] and staid at Charnel's Inn. We entered this Province [Lower Canada] about 3 o'clock this afternoon; soon after passing the lines we enquired of an intelligent farmer whether we were in Canada; he pointed to a long red store which we had just passed, and said one end of it was in the United States and the other in Canada, with a horse shed between them. Upon asking him in a pleasant mood, what was necessary for us to do—whether it was necessary we should report ourselves—he said, "Oh, no! If you have brought nothing to sell." I told him we had nothing to dispose of but Gospel love and good will to the people. He raised his eyes upon us, and in a serious manner said, "God prosper you in your undertaking," and kindly invited us to go home with him and spend the night. But as we had time to reach Georgeville by sunset we pursued our journey. The country as we entered the Province in the township of Candish is very handsome, and of rich soil. In many places it is well cultivated and populous. Their grass, wheat, corn, and potatoes are fine. No cultivated fruit that we noticed except apples and currants; of the former some trees were full.

7th Mo. 17th, and 7th of the week. We crossed Lake Memphismagog [sic]—the morning was delightful and the waters

smooth which we pleasantly passed over in a two-horse boat. Our ride after this was over a high mountain, the roads exceedingly out of order, for seven or eight miles mostly through woods. We stopped at a kind of public house, just after passing through the woods where we found kind attention, but limited provision. About sunset we reached Gideon Bull's, his family but not himself, are members with Friends. Here we staid the 7th Mo. 18th and 1st of the week. This morning we rode to George Hall's, 4 miles, and attended their meeting; some notice being given, it was well attended, and a precious season. At the close of it seemed proper to appoint another at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. There are about 30 families of Friends belonging to this Meeting who live within a few miles of each other, and is the only established Meeting of Friends in Lower Canada.....

"7th Mo. 19th, 20th, and 21st till noon. Visited all the families belonging to Farnham Meeting, except two living about 16 miles out of the neighborhood, to the relief and encouragement of my mind. And in the afternoon of the 21st rode to St. Amonds and staid the night at a public house."

From a letter to his wife.

"Peru, at Geo. Irish's, 7th mo. 24th, 1830.

....Regarding our visit to the families of Friends in Lower Canada, I would observe that we had no prospect of such a service till approaching the neighborhood, when it gently passed before the view of my mind, without remaining long in thought, or exciting much concern. But there was something like a sweet savor which it left on the mind. And next day, being now with Friends, First-day, it again and again was revived with exceeding weight and became a subject of my serious concern. After the morning meeting, which was satisfactory, I mentioned this subject to my companion [J. N. Fay] and he uniting therewith, it was laid before the select members, which met their full approval. One of their ministers said that she had recently told her husband that she believed that such a visit would be soon performed among them, by whom she then knew not. ....

Next morning we commenced the family visits, having Charles Tabor for pilot, and in two days and a half visited the

families belonging to the Monthly Meeting, consisting of about thirty, and live pretty near the meeting-house. Their settlement is new—the members are mostly youngerly Friends with growing families—and live in log houses, pretty near to each other in what they call an opening, that is a number of acres cleared of the timber in the midst of a mighty forest. The soil is deep and good—the land pretty level, and the timber of great growth, consisting of Hemlocks, Pines, Ash, Elms, Mapple, Beach, etc. In passing through the woods, an Elm, from its grand appearance, attracted our attention. It was the judgment of Charles Tabor and James N. Fay, that it extended 80 feet before it sent out a limb—and at that point it was thought to be 2 feet or more through, and of a light ash color. It was one of the wonders of the forest.

To our feelings it was very interesting to visit those dear Friends in their families and their remote and sequestered situations and particularly to find them under the tuition of the blessed Truth, speaking its language and showing forth its praise gratefully evincing that godliness with contentment is great gain. Their children appeared promising."....

A QUAINT REPORT.

To the Woomen Ffriends of the Quarterly Meeting at Banbury.

Deare Friends,—It so hapens that none of us from Henly this yeer can conveniently attend the service of this Meeting. These cums to let you understand, that wee are in unity. Our week days Meetings are duly kept up. Our Poore are taken care of. Wee hope Truth prospers amongst us. And whear any thing is known to be a miss care is taken for amendent. This with the salutation of our Dear Loves, wee remaine your Ffriends in the Truth.

Judith Grimsdall.
Lidia Toovey.

Henly the 24th, 4th mo. 1726.

[Armistead's Select Miscellanies, II.]

NOTES AND QUERIES.

THOMAS BOWNE.—A descendant of John Bowne writes, under date of "July 8, 1908," regarding the paper on "John Bowne of Flushing," in the last number of THE BULLETIN: "The article on John Bowne I have greatly enjoyed.....I would like to speak of one little thing, however, Thomas Bowne, John Bowne's father, had a nice little estate in England—the name has gone from me, but they had means, I am sure, as old letters speak of this property. John Bowne wished to perfect himself in some work, and thus took the position with Mr. Philips. Many young men of that day, even of good families, served an apprenticeship—they were not servants."

BOOKS BY FRIENDS.—An unusually large number of books by or about Friends have appeared in 1908, among them are "John Stephenson Rowntree, His Life and Work"; "Aaron's Breastplate and other Addresses," by J. Rendel Harris; "Light Arising," by Caroline E. Stephen; "Authority and the Light Within," by Edward Grubb; "The Story of Quakerism," by Elizabeth B. Emmott; all published by Headley Brothers, London; "Union with God in Thought and Faith," by David Scull, edited by Joseph Elkinton, George A. Barton and Rufus M. Jones, with a biographical sketch by the latter, The John C. Winston Co., Philadelphia; "Ecclesiastes," in the International Critical Commentary Series, by Dr. George A. Barton, of Bryn Mawr, Pa. New York Scribners.

Of the above, three at least call for special mention. John Stephenson Rowntree, of York, England, as a young man of twenty-four, was the winner of the first prize of one hundred guineas offered in 1858 by an anonymous gentleman for the best essay accounting for the decline in the Society of Friends. The essay "Quakerism, Past and Present," was a sympathetic, able presentation of the condition of Friends in the middle of the nineteenth century, and of the causes which led to that condition. No one, before or since, has given a better survey of the subject. The essay remains a standard authority on the history of the Society. It is difficult to overestimate the influence of this little book on the Society in England, and indirectly in America also. Its truthfulness, its force, its honesty, its simplicity carried conviction and led to action. His life was an honor to the Society, to his friends, and to the city in which he lived. His biography and the accompanying addresses are of great value.

"The Story of Quakerism," by Elizabeth B. Emmott, is a successful effort to give the main facts of the history of Friends in a popular, attractive form. No attempt has been made to go fully into details, as the book is not intended for the scholar or historian. Written for English readers, the history of Friends in America is not specially dwelt upon, and needs correction in some places. The illustrations are, in general, good and add to the value of the text.

The author, a daughter of the late Joseph Bevan Braithwaite, is to be commended for her skill in making an interesting volume.

The third book is of a very different character—the "Commentary on Ecclesiastes," by Dr. George A. Barton,* of Bryn Mawr, Such a scholarly work does honor to the Society, and no volume of the same character has ever before been published by a Friend. The scholarly work of J. Tindale Harris on John is of a somewhat different nature, while the brilliant work of J. Rendel Harris lies in another field. The series is intended primarily for scholars understanding Hebrew, Greek, and other Oriental languages, and is in no sense popular. The *Expository Times* says of the book, "Dr. Barton's knowledge of Ecclesiastes and its literature is full to overflowing, and his sound judgment and good sense will appeal to every student and thoughtful reader. The volume is worthy of its place in the 'International Critical Commentary Series,' and one lays it down with the feeling that one has been in the company of an able, conscientious and trustworthy guide."

*Note.—Dr. Barton was, in his youth, a member of Farnham Meeting, described in another article of this number.

Entirely New Edition of the Journal of George Fox.—All readers of The Bulletin will be interested in knowing that a new edition of George Fox's Journal printed from the original manuscript is soon to be an accomplished fact. The MSS. which belong to Robert Spence, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, were, a year or two ago, deposited by him, on loan, in the library at Devonshire House, London. About the middle of the last century, each separate leaf was mounted and the whole bound in two large octavo volumes. The work was carefully done, and has been helpful in preserving the MSS. in good order. As is well known, there are many differences between the MS. and even the first edition of 1694, though few, if any, changes were made which altered the essential features of the Journal. The new edition will give the Journal for the first time exactly as it was dictated by George Fox. "When the edition appears it will not only contain the whole Journal, but also a number of other documents closely connected, among which may be mentioned a full account of the American journey of 1671-1673, now to be printed for the first time. In addition there will be a number of photogravure

plates of representative pages of the MSS." That the work will be carefully and thoroughly edited is assured by the fact that T. Edmund Harvey and Norman Penney are the editors. It will be published by the Cambridge (England) University Press. It will be a number of months before the book will be ready.

"The Quaker Boy at School."—A too brief account of life at Westtown School, and the carrying out there of the ideal of a "guarded religious education," written by President Isaac Sharpless, of Haverford College, appears in *The Independent* for September 3, 1908, and will be reprinted in book form by the Biddle Press, later.

"Benjamin West not a Quaker."—Charles Henry Hart, of Philadelphia, contributes a paper under the above title to the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* for January, 1908. Fifty copies of which have been reprinted. The author says, "John Galt, who was the official biographer of West, was a romance writer and not a historian; consequently he coined many pretty fictions that have taken root and spread by being served up by all subsequent writers, so that now it is impossible to top them off and eradicate them, although mere romances." C. H. Hart says of the father of Benjamin West and his two brothers, "They were birthright members of the Society of Friends, but John, the father of Benjamin came to this country *without a certificate of transfer,* which shows he was not in good standing with Friends when he left England....John West, born in 1690, arrived in Pennsylvania *circa* 1715....John West was not a Quaker when he settled in Pennsylvania....and he did not become a member of that sect until late in life. He married, in Chester County, Sarah, daughter of Thomas Pearson, who came from England with William Penn. She too was a birthright member of the Society of Friends, but for some indiscretions, prejudicial to the well-being of Friends, was disowned, or read out of meeting, so that this marriage was not accomplished according to the good order of the Society of Friends, and the children of John and Sarah West, credited to number ten, were therefore *not Quakers.* This is the reason we do not know their names; otherwise they would be upon the records of meeting....Sarah West, the mother, died in 1756....and it was not until three years later that John West, the father.... joined meeting."

It may be remarked in connection with the above extracts, that the statements regarding birthright membership need qualification. So far as appears, birthright membership was not recognized officially by Friends until 1737; therefore it will hardly do to speak of John West and his wife, and his brothers, as being "birthright members."

JOURNAL OF THE FRIENDS' HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—The number for Seventh month, 1908, as usual, contains much of interest. The "Documents from the Paris National Archives," relating to Stephen Grellet, are concluded. The paper, "Friends in Mansfield," throws much light on the ways of Friends in the 17th century. The instructions issued to the first "Women's" Quarterly Meeting for Nottinghamshire, "20th day of 7th month, 1671," are specially quaint.

THE QUAKER IN THE FORUM.—"Mrs. Amelia M. Gummere, well known to Philadelphians as the wife of Prof. Francis B. Gummere of Haverford College, and as the author of several valuable works on the history of Quakerism, has just placed in the hands of the John C. Winston Company the manuscript of a new book on 'The Quaker in the Forum.' This work, which will be ready about the first of the year, traces the history of the part which members of the Society of Friends have played and their great influence on the political and social life of their times."—*New York Times Saturday Review,* October 31, 1908.

LOVE.—By Martin Mason, written about 1662.

LOVE is a vertue that endures for ever,
A link of matchless jewels none can sever.
Had I the tongue of men and Angels too,
If Love were wanting what good could I do?
Love far surmounts all earthly Diadems,
Though deckt with pearls, with rubies and with jems;
Love is the life of all things under th' sun,
Love must the Lawrel wear, when all is done.
Love's eye is tender, Love does gently draw
The mind to God, without a penal Law.
Love thinks no ill, Love never did invent,
Fines, præmunire, Goals nor Banishment
For Innocents, Love hath no spleen nor Gall,
Love's like the Royal Sun; Love shines on All.

The above lines on Love are a specimen of the verses occasionally to be found in the writings of Friends of the 17th century.—There is scarcely a doubt that they are by Martin Mason, and they occur at the end of a short tract entitled "An Expostulation with the Bishops in England Concerning their Jurisdiction over the People of God called Quakers," etc. Dated, "The 5th of the 7th Month [September] 1662." Very little is known of this Friend. "Sewel is entirely silent, and so is Joseph Besse, though he suffered a good deal of imprisonment in Lincoln City Gaol. I find he was one concerned in the schism caused by John Perrot, about taking off the Hat in time of prayer; and he seems to have had some tender feelings towards him, as he wrote some verses to his memory." Joseph Smith. Catalogue of Friends' Books, vol. 2: 152.

INDEX

BULLETIN OF FRIENDS' HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA.

Vols. 1 and 2.
1906—1908.

NOTE.

Figures without any prefix refer to volume 1; figures preceded by II refer to volume 2.

"Aaron's Breastplate," etc. II, 122
Allen, Mary S. II, 32
Amsterdam, Directors of West India Company, and Religious Freedom. II, 49, 52
Annual Meeting, etc., 1908. II, 32, 34
Baily, Joshua L. 23, 35
Barclay, David. 13-15, 20, 21
Barton, George A. II, 123
Binns, Henry Bryan. II, 23
Bowne, Elizabeth. II, 61
Bowne, Hannah. II, 45-66
Bowne, Hannah, Jr. II, 66
Bowne, Thomas. II, 45, 61, 122
Bowne, John. II, 44-67, 79, 82
Braddock, General Edward. 6
Bradford, William. II, 76
Brocksupp, Joan. II, 56
Brocksupp, Thomas. II, 56
Bull, Joshua. II, 113
Bunyan, John. II, 80, 81
Burling, William or Thomas. II, 31
Calvert, Giles. II, 74
Canada, Province of Quebec, Friends in. II, 113, 119
Caton, William. II, 50
Charles II and Release of Friends. II, 79
Chess Party, An International. 3-22
Coddington Graveyard. 76
Coddington, William. 88, II, 12-13
Coddington, Anne. 88, II, 13
Coffin, Charles F. II, 2-11, 110
Coffin, Elijah. II, 24
Collinson, Peter. 5
Constitution and By Laws. 38
Cook, Arthur II, 71
Cossinet, Francis. II, 75
Davis, Timothy. 91, 115
Dickinson, John. 35, 36, 76
Drinker, Henry. II, 26, 86
Dyer, Mary. II, 30
Early Friends, Their Parentage. II, 78
East Farnham, P. Q. Canada, A visit to, 1830. II, 119
"Ecclesiastes," Barton's. II, 123
Elson, John. II, 59
Emmott, Elizabeth B. II, 123
Erratic Spelling. II, 81
Exiles in Virginia. II, 25
Fable of The Cat and the Eagle. 18
Farnham Monthly Meeting. II, 113
Five Years' Meeting. II, 28
Fixed Prices. II, 29
Fletcher, Colonel. II, 18
Ford, Philip. II, 17-19
Fothergill, John. 3-22
Fox, George, at Flushing. II, 57
Fox, The George, Lot, 89
Fox, George and Lewis Morris II, 79
"Fox, George, Journal of," New Edition. II, 123
Franklin, Benjamin. 3-22
Friends' Historical Society of Philadelphia. 1
Friends in Maine, 18th Century. 112, 113-116
Friends' Meeting, Faneuil Hall. II, 30
Friends' Meeting, Harvard College. II, 31
Grant, Mrs. Colquhoun. II,23
Greene, Rowland. II, 119

Gummere, Amelia M. 3-22, II, 125
Hancock, John. 120
Harris, J. Rendel. II, 122
Hart, Charles Henry. II, 124
Haverford College. II, 29
Hilton, John. II, 15
Hinchman, Lydia S. 49
Hobbs, Mary M. 92-112
Hodgson, Anna. 56-60
Hodgson, Robert. II, 46
Hodgson, John. II, 48
Hunt, Nathan. 92-112, II, 15
Hooton, Elizabeth. II, 52, 56.
Hornor, Bartholomew. II, 54
Hornor, Thomas. II, 53
Howe, Mrs. 15-17
Howe, Lord. 16-17, 18
Howland, George. 105
Hubbard, Jeremiah. 105
Hull, Henry. 91
Huntingdon, Lady. 19, 20
Indiana Yearly Meeting. II, 2-8
International Chess Party. 3-22
Inter-Yearly Meeting Correspondence, 18th century. II, 68
Iowa Yearly Meeting, Opening of. II, 110
Jenkins, H. M. 89
Journal Friends' Historical Society. II, 81, 125
Keith, George, II, 18, 19
Larner, William. II, 75
Last Day of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1813. II, 82-84
Lincoln, Abraham. II, 23
Lloyd, Thomas. II, 17-19, 71
"Love," by Martin Mason. II, 125
Maine, Friends in. 112-116
Mason, Martin. II, 125
Mather, Cotton, and W. Penn. 89
Members, List of. 41, 121, II, 35
Morris, Lewis.
Will of, II, 78
Sketch of, II, 79
Estate of, II, 79
and George Fox, II, 79
Nantucket. 49-55
New Garden Boarding School. 105
New York, Early Friends in. II, 44-67
Norton, Roger. II, 75
Notes and Queries. 35, 76, 88 II, 28, 78, 122
Ohio Yearly Meeting. 117-119
Osborne, Hannah R. 108
Parentage of Early Friends. II, 78
Pease, Edward, Diary. II, 20
Pemberton, Israel. II, 25-27
Pemberton, James. 10, 11, 12, 36 II 27
Pemberton, John. II, 25-27
Penn, John. 8
Penn, William. II, 18, 23, 78
Penn, William, and C. Mather. 89
Pennsylvania Episode, A. 70-74
Philadelphia Counterpart of Boston Tea Party. II, 86
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Epistle, 1749. II, 69
Pleasants, Robert. II, 26
Pleasants, Samuel. II, 27
Plomer, Henry R. II, 73
Pre-revolutionary Customs. 90
Profession of Faith, Pa. Assembly. II, 30
"Quaker Boy at School." II, 124
Quaker & Courtier W. Penn. II, 23
Quaker Marriages in New York, 17th Century. II, 82
Quaker Printers, etc. in 17th Century. II, 73-77
Quaker Records. II, 81
"Quakerism, The Story of." II, 123
Redemptioners. 77
Richmond, Indiana. II, 3
Rhode Island Records. 56-60
Rowntree, John Stephenson. II, 122
Rotch, William. 49-55, 120
Sands, David. 112, 115

Scots College at Paris. II, 29, 78
Sewel, William. II, 76n
Sharpless, Isaac. I, 70-74, II, 124
Sheppard, Catharine P. 111
Simmons, Thomas. II, 75
Sowle, Andrew. II, 75, 76
Sowle, Tace. II, 76
Spelling, Erratic. II, 81
Stamp Act. 9, 10, II, 86
Stuyvesant, Peter. II, 46, 53n
Taylor, Thomas B. II, 86
Tea Party, Philadelphia. II, 86
Temperance Cause among Friends of Philadelphia. 23-35, 75
Thomas, Allen C., Editor. 88
Virginia Yearly Meeting Epistle, 1748. II, 68
Warwick, William. II, 76
Wayte, Thomas. II, 76, 77
"West, Benjamin, not a Quaker." II, 124
Western Yearly Meeting. II, 9-11
Wharton, Thomas. II, 25-27
White, John. II, 77
Whitehead, George. II, 19, 71-73
and Pardon of Friends. II, 80
Whitewater Monthly Meeting, II, 2
Whittier Centenary. II, 29
Willis, Henry and John Bowne. II, 82
Wilson, Robert. II, 77
Wing, Joseph Jr. 113-116
Women Printers and Publishers in 17th century. II, 75n
Woolman, John. 98, 99
Yarnall, Charles. II, 44-67
Yarnall, Peter. 78
Zins-Penninck, Judith. II, 76

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Fothergill, Dr. John. 3
Rotch, William. 49
Hunt, Nathan. 87
Coffin, Elijah. II, 1
Indiana Yearly Meeting, 1844. II, 5
Residence of Nathan Hunt. II, 15
Old Bowne House, II, 43
Flushing Oaks, etc. II, 57

ERRATA.

I, 49, line 8, for *Hitchman* read *Hinchman.*
II, 52, line 5, for *Leddia* read *Leddra.*
II, 71, line 2, for *1690* read *1691.*
II, 77, line 18, for *Smead* read *Snead.*
II, 78, line 4 from bottom, for *Scotch* read *Scots.*
II, 79, line 11, for *Bessie's* read *Besse's.*